(ख) क्या इन मजदूरों को मकान बनाने के लिए कर्ज देने की कोई योजना है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो योजना का पूरा ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो क्या ऐसी कोई योजना बनाई जायेगी?

श्रम मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री राधाकृष्ण मालवीय): (क) उत्तर प्रदेश में बीड़ी कर्मकारों की संख्या 4.50 लाख सूचित की गई है।

(ख) और (ग) इन योजनाओं के अंतर्गत-बीड़ी कर्मकारों के लिए "अपना मकान स्वंय बनाओ" और "ग्रुप आवास योजना"—प्रति मकान सहायता के रूप में 1000/- रू० और ब्याज मुक्त ऋण के रूप में 6000/- रू० की मंजूरी का प्रावधान रखा गया है। यह ऋण नौ साल की अवधि में वसूल किया जाता है। "अपना मकान स्वंय बनाओ" योजना के अंतर्गत लाभ प्रत्येक बीड़ी कर्मकार को उपलब्ध हैं। बीड़ी कर्मकारों के लिए "ग्रुप आवास योजना" के अंतर्गत लाभों के लिए बीड़ी उद्योग के कम से कम 50 कर्मकारों द्वारा बनाई गई पंजीकृत सहकारी ग्रुप आवास सोसाइटी पात्र है।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Fraudulent use of Bureau of Indian Standards Marks for spurious products

1227. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether several manufacturers of spurious products are making fraudulent use of the marking of Bureau of Indian Standards; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to prevent this misuse?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) Cases of some such manufacturers of spurious products making fraudulent use of BIS Standard Mark have come to the notice of Bureau of Indian Standards.

(b) 17 legal cases, in the matter of fraudulent use of BIS Standard Mark, have been instituted by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) since 1-4-1986. While punishment has been awarded in 10 cases, 7 cases are still pending in the concerned Courts. The Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986, which was brought into force with effect from 1-4-1987, now provides enhanced penalties under Section 33 of that Act. Any person who contravenes the provisions of Section 11 or Section 12 or Section 14 or Section 15 of this Act, can be awarded punishment by the competent Court with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine which may extend to fifty thousand rupees or with both.

Agitation by engineering Staff of AIR and Doordarshan

1228. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the engineering staff of AIR and Doordarshan have resorted to an agitation recently; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the agitation and the steps taken by Government to redress their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The agitation by a section of engineering staff was for cancellation of the

transfer orders of an office bearer of Association of Radio and Television Engineering Employees. The transfer was on administrative grounds within the same city and therefore no cause for grievance exists.

Recruitment of labourers for Basra reconstruction project by Iraq

1229. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Iraq is recruiting a large number of Labourers for its Basra reconstruction project;

(b) whether India has failed to utilise this opportunity due to absence of a manpower export policy; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to streamline manpower export policy?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHAKISHAN MALAVIYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Shortage of Steel Scrap

1230. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the mini Steel Industry in the country is facing various problems, including acute shortage of Scrap;

(b) whether the Industry has requested Government to exempt sponge iron from excise duty;

(c) if so, what is the decision of Government on this request; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to help the mini Steel Industry to regain viability?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) Representations received by the Government from the industry indicate that some electric arc furnace units are facing shortage of meltmg scrap and power.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) In order to enable the units to become technologically efficient and more viable, Government have decided to allow expansion of mini steel plants which undertake modernisation. Government is importing scrap from various countries to meet the shortage.

Merger of posts of Training Officer/ Asstt. Training Officer in D. G. E. & T.

1231. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the posts oi Training Officer and Asstt. Training Officer in D.G.E. & T have been recommended to be merged and placed in the same scale of Rs. 2000-3500;

(b) if so, whether it is not an injustice to the remaining posts i.e. Surveyor/ STA/GI/Store Officer in the same cadre of Asstt. Training Officer prescribing same recruitment qualification and and experience have not been recommended for merger; and

(c) whether D.G.E. & T have taken up this case with Government; if so, what is the reaction thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHAKISHAN MALAVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.